



In a mansion high above the city, the life of Kei Shindo, the last remaining heiress of the Shindo family, hangs in the balance. Centuries ago, a Grim Reaper placed a curse on the Shindo family: none of its heirs would live beyond their twentieth birthday.

With Kei's final birthday just hours away, Keita Kawahira and his plucky inukami partner, Yoko, have challenged the mysterious Grim Reaper, known as "Sea of Rage," to a duel. If Keita wins, the Shindo curse will be broken forever, Kei's life will be saved, and Keita and Yoko's financial troubles will be a thing of the past. But the Grim Reaper isn't known for olaving fair and has some dirty tricks up his tattered sleeve. A Tor/Seven Seas Book



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editor Adam Arnold A Tor/Seven Seas Publication

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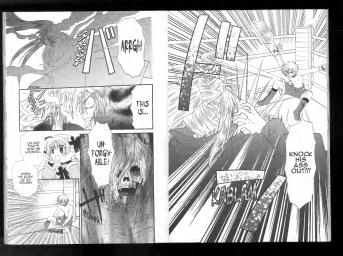




























TAKE CARE.

Gokyoya

Height: 150 cm Bust: 81 cm Waist: 56 cm Hips: 83 cm Age: 204











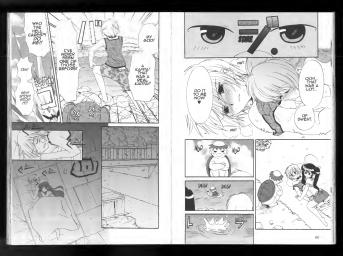








































Step.21 Under the Kappa Bridge: Part 2

LET ME READ YOUR FORTUNE.

Furano Height: 159 cm Bust: 86 cm Waist: 60 cm Hips: 85 cm Age: 160







































Step.22 Keita and the Ranking Feud



Tenso

Bust: 83 cm Waist: 58 cm Hip: 81 cm Age: 185





































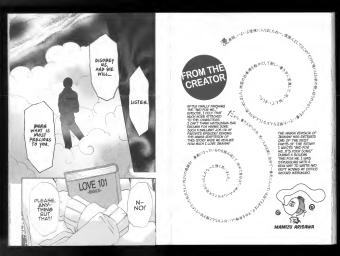




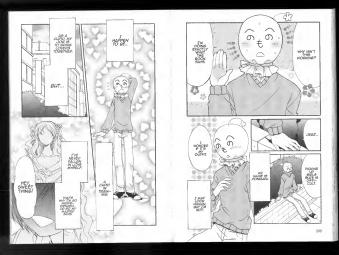
















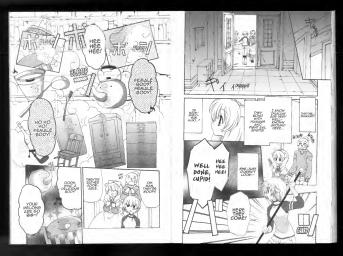






















Afterword

SO, VOLUME S IT IS. IMARI AND SAYOKA ARE THE COVER GIRLS. WHY? BECAUSE I JUST LOVE THEIR CHARACTER

I KNOW IT'S BASED PURELY ON PERSONAL PEFFERENCE. BUT REALLY, VOLUME 5 ALREADY? TIME DOES FLY. DEAUNING THE BOXING SCENE SURE WAS A

CHALLENGE,
"FIGHT ON, MRRY YOU CAN DO IT!"
MY DESPEST THANKS TO ARISMUN-SAN AND
WAKATSUKI-SAN FOR THEIR COMMENTS AND

ILLUSTRATIONS. WITH THEM AS MY INSPIRATION, I'LL FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT!

MARI MATSUZAWA 2007

SPECIAL THINKS ITT ICHIOLIA SAN BACKGROUND SPECIALIST THINKS O MELICIK

From the Character Designer

COMBRATULATIONS ON THE PUBLICATION OF TANKAM! VOL. 51% IT'S WOZEDBELE THAT YOU MANAGE SUCH A HECTIC SCHEDULE A AS THOSE BIND HAVE DOWN IT KNOW, APATING A MARKE AND 86 VERY DIFFICULT. ® MATSUZAMA-SAN MARKS IT LOOK EFFORTLESS, WHACH MOYESSES ME BUDLESSLY, MR.

TLL BE CHEERING YOU ON FROM MY OFFICE, NOT SO FAR FROM YOURS, MAY YOU PREVAIL IN THE COMING BATTLES AGAINST THE SAIDMAN AND DEBILLINESS. WE SO FOR A DRAMANS OF MERCES HY AUSLASE TO YOUR REQUEST FOR A DRAMANS OF MISCHAEF-DUTTING MARK AND SAYORS.".9



TRANSLATION NOTES

48

Kappa - In Japanese folklore, a kappa is a mischievous and common river spirit. It loves cucumbers and has a water dish on its head.

72.1

Yokai is Japanese for "spirits" or "demons," but they're not necessarily evil – they could be good or bad, just like people. The kappa is a vokai.

85.1

Otosan is the Japanese word for father.

94,5

We met Tomekichi back in Volume 1. He's a nekomata—a spirit cat with a forked tail out of Japanese folklore. In fact, all of the cats here are nekomata.

101.2

Tanuki – Japanese raccoon dog. It's not a true raccoon or a dog, but a small mammal related to dogs and foxes. They are believed to be mischievous, jolly shape-shifters.

167.1

When Ponkuru says that he's a cupid in training, he means it in the sense that he's a matchmaker or a "love sprite," and not in the sense that he's a little naked kid with wings zipping around shooting people with arrows.

176.3

Problem: From the traditional "letter-face" style, where all the facial components are hiragana, or phonetic symbols: ^ (he) for eyebrows, Ø (no) for eyes, ⅓ (mo) for nose, ^ (he) for mouth, and U (ij) for facial outline.

HONORIFICS

To ensure that all character relationships appear as they were originally intended, all character names have been kept in their original Japanese name order with family name first and given name second. For copyright reasons, creator names appear in standard English name order.

In addition to preserving the original Japanese name order, Seven Seas is committed to ensuring that honorifies—poilte speech that indicates a persons status or eladiscable) towards another individual—are retained within this book. Politeness is an integral facet of Japanese culture and we believe that maintaining honorifies in our translations helps bring out the same character ranness as seen in the ropinal work.

The following are some of the more common honorifies you may come across while reading this and other books:

-san - The most common of all honorifies, it is an all-purpose suffix that

can be used in any situation where politeness is expected. Generally seen as the equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs., etc.

-sama – This suffix is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect upon an individual.

-kun – This suffix is commonly used at the end of boys' names to express either familiarity or endearment. It can also be used when addressing someone younger than oneself or of a lower status.

-chan – Another common honorific. This suffix is mainly used to express endearment towards girls, but can also be used when referring to little boys or even pets. Couples are also known to use the term between themselves to convey a sense of cuteness and intimacy.

Sempai – This title is used towards one's senice or "superior" in a particular group or organization. "Sempai" is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to upperclassmen as "sempai," though it is also commonly said by employees when addressing fellow employees who hold seniority in the workolke.

Sensei - Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.